

John Provost <jprovost@northampton-k12.us> Wed, Jan 19, 2022, 8:18 AM
to Marion, me

Dear Marion,

I am writing in response to your recent public records requests. Specifically, on January 15, 2022 you requested PRS 5507 Letter of Finding and on January 16, 2022 you requested PRS 4840 Letter of Finding. To the extent the district understands this request and has records in its custody, please see the attached public records responsive to your request.

As public records laws permit public entities to release segregable portions of public records not protected by public records laws exemptions, the district is providing you with a redacted copy of the requested record. The redacted portions of the requested public record are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to the public records law exemption, G.L. c. 4 § 7, Twenty-sixth (a) (protects release of information in public records protected by statute). The district has redacted personally identifiable student information from the attached record in order to comply with student confidentiality laws, specifically FERPA (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1); 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.3; 99.31(b)(1)) and Massachusetts student records laws (G.L. c. 71 § 34D; 603 C.M.R. § 23.07(4)) and special education laws (34 C.F.R. §§ 300.561; 300.572; 300.573). Additionally, the redacted information falls into public records law exemption, G.L. c. 4 § 7, Twenty-sixth (c) (protecting release of information that may constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy).

If you disagree with the denial of the redacted portions of information in the provided record, you have a right to an administrative appeal to the Massachusetts Supervisor of Records pursuant to 950 CMR 32.08(1) and the right to seek judicial review of an unfavorable decision by commencing a civil action in the Superior Court. 950 C.M.R. 32.06(3)(c).

JP

On Sun, Jan 16, 2022 at 5:42 PM Marion King <marion.king@comcast.net> wrote:
Please also provide the LOF for PRS 4840. Thank you.
On 01/15/2022 9:26 PM Marion King <marion.king@comcast.net> wrote:

Dear Records Access Officer:

I am writing to request a copy of the below document(s), pursuant to Massachusetts Public Records Law, c.66, §10:

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Letter(s) of Finding for complaint PRS 5507, redacted of any confidential information.

We received information about the Letter(s) of Finding from PRS in a list of districts and the corresponding numbers for the letters of concern. We do not have any information regarding the individual student about whom the concern was filed.

SPEDWatch is a special education watchdog group and we are gathering this information because we feel it is important for the public to know what types of noncompliance typically occur.

Please send your response by email. If there will be a fee associated with this request, please provide me with a quote before proceeding. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marion J. King

SPEDWatch Board of Directors